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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

STATES RELATIONS SERVICE.

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HOW TEACHERS IN RURAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS MAY USE FARMERS' BULLETIN 767, GOOSE RAISING.

Range for use.—General, but of special importance to the South and Middle West.

Relation to the course of study.—This bulletin should be used in connection with the course in agriculture as it relates to poultry.

Topics for study.—The material in this bulletin should be grouped into four lesson topics: (1) Breeds—Toulouse, Embden, African, Chinese, wild or Canada, and Egyptian, pages 3–7; (2) breeding—extent, purposes, houses, selecting and mating, pages 7–10; (3) incubation, pages 10–12; and (4) feeding and preparing for market, pages 12–14.

Study questions.—Topic 1. Study the descriptions and compare the figures of the several breeds of geese to enable the pupils to recognize each breed. Make a survey of the community to ascertain the breeds found, the number of geese of each breed, the purposes for which each breed is grown, the value of the total number of each breed, the total value of all the geese in the community, how disposed of or marketed.

Topic 2. Where the breeding of geese is to be made a business, what provisions should be made with reference to feed and water? What should be provided in the way of housing? What points should be taken into consideration in selecting geese for breeding purposes?

Topic 3. When should goose eggs be saved for incubation? What provisions should be made in the way of nests? What methods of incubation are employed? How are goslings brooded?

Topic 4. What is the most important factor in the feeding of geese? What supplementary food is necessary? What rations should be fed to goslings? What rations are used in fattening geese? Is it advisable to confine geese during the fattening period? What rations are suggested for adult geese for egg production? What methods are employed in fattening young geese? Give directions for dressing geese for market. Are geese raised in the community for feathers? When and how should feathers be plucked?

Illustrative materials.—Utilize the figures in the bulletin in connection with the study of breeds. Make collections of typical feathers from the various breeds of geese found in the community. Mount

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these on cardboard and preserve them for further class use and school exhibits.

Practical exercises.—(1) Making the community survey provided for in connection with topic 1 affords practice. (2) Members of the class may either become responsible for the home flocks of geese or undertake home projects in the growing of goslings for market.

Correlations.—For written work compile the facts ascertained from the community survey previously referred to.

Drawing: Members of the class should be required to make sketches of the different breeds of geese found in the community; also of typical feathers.

The facts ascertained in the survey should be utilized to develop exercises in arithmetic. Keep records of the feed used and cost of growing 10 goslings; fattening 15 geese. Take into account the daily ration and the number of days.

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April 5, 1917.

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